Message Text

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FOR S/S

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, OCON, MX, XM

SUBJ: SECVISIT: SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE, MFM: WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

REF: MEXICO 1398

1. OFFICE OF PROTOCOL HAS INFORMED US OF FOLLOWING SCENARIO FOR WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY (FIRST ITEM ON AGENDA FOR FULL MFM).

A. FOREIGN MINISTERS' MOTORCADE WILL DEPART CAMINO REAL AT 0815, FEBRUARY 21, ARRIVING AT INDEPENDENCE MONUMENT ("THE ANGEL") AT 0825.

B. TWENTY-FIVE FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL THEN LINE UP ON SOUTH-WEST SIDE OF MONUMENT WITH MEXICAN FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA AT CENTER-RIGHT (FACING MONUMENT) AND ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER AT CENTER-LEFT. OTHER FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL ALTERNATELY STAND TO RIGHT OF RABASA AND LEFT OF VIGNES IN SPANISH-LANGUAGE ALPHABETICAL ORDER. THIS MEANS THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WILL STAND ON SIDE OF ARGENTINE BETWEEN ECUADORAN FOREIGN MINISTER ANTONIO JOSE LUCIO PAREDES (TO SECRETARY'S RIGHT) AND GUYANA FOREIGN SECRETARY SHRIDATH RAMPHAL.

C. MINISTERS RABASA AND VIGNES JOINTLY WILL PLACE A SINGLE WREATH, SUPPLIED BY MEXICAN OFFICE OF PROTOCOL. THERE WILL BE NO SPEECHES.

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D. FOREIGN SECRETARIES WILL SIGN BOOK IN SPANISH-LANGUAGE

ALPHABETICAL ORDER.

E. UPON TERMINATION OF BRIEF (ABOUT 15 MINUTE) CEREMONY, FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL REENTER LIMOUSINES TO PROCEED DIRECTLY TO FONSECRETARIAT FOR INAUGURAL SESSION OF MFM.

2. CEREMONY IS NOT SPECIFICALLY PUBLIC EVENT, ALTHOUGH BY NATURE AND LOCATION, IT IS BOUND TO DRAW ATTENTION OF PASSERS BY -- TO SAY NOTHING OF INCREASING NOISE LEVEL CAUSED BY IMPATIENT DRIVERS CAUGHT IN RESULTANT TRAFFIC JAM. JOVA

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